

THE UNLEY ROTARIAN

Meeting 3692 – 8th December 2009

Website: unley.rotaryclub.org.au

2009 - 2010

Rotary Club of Unley Inc.

DISTRICT 9520
CHARTERED 17TH APRIL 1935



PRESIDENT: Jerry Casburn: 8295 8227 or 0407 646 396
SECRETARY: Jerry Casburn: 8295 8227 or 0407 646 396
ADDRESS: PO Box 18, Unley SA 5061
EMAIL: unley.secretary@rotaryclub.org.au
MEETINGS: The Club meets every Tuesday at "Tiffins on the Park",
176 Greenhill Road, Parkside (Cnr George Street) at 6.30pm.
Fellowship at 6.00pm

Our Last Meeting

Meeting No.	3692
Date	8 th December 2009
Venue	Tiffins on the Park
Occasion	Leena Kasurinen – "Leena's Presentation on her home in Finland & Christmas Giving Meeting."
Sergeant	David Middleton
Chairman	Joan Reed
Guests	Sue Middleton, Katherine Reed, Graham Jaeschke (GM Smith Family)
Apologies	Heather Kilsby, Bob Mills, Natalie Bowden
Make-Ups	Heather Kilsby, Jerry Casburn
Anniversaries	Birthday: Colin Schirmer (9/12))
Attendance	68%

President's Announcements

1. First, it is with regret that I have to advise of the resignation of **Martin Cooper** as both Secretary and a member of this club. I wish both Martin and Angie well for the future. They have both been tremendous workers for this club in its events and activities and will be a loss to Rotary.
2. I would also like to advise the club of funds raised to the amount of \$804. This came through a donation of surplus furniture made available through **Angie Cooper's** company which she and Martin arranged to be auctioned, with the net proceeds donated to the club. Martin will be advising me of the names from both Angie's firm and the auctioneers who gave favourable rates for the auction process, I will be writing to them to thank them once this information is available.
3. I have had a complaint from a Rotarian relating to the use of email addresses for purposes other than contact to Rotarians on Rotary matters. **Email addresses are provided to allow private contact between members of this club and should NOT be disclosed to any third party without the express authority of the Rotarian in question.** I have asked Stephen to add a rider to the Web based Directory emphasising this fact. Please do not use email addresses for any purpose, commercial or otherwise, if they are not related to the business of this club.
4. A reminder to Board members that we have a Board meeting on Thursday 10th December which will be held at the offices of **Greg McLeod**, a separate email has been sent to the Board members.
5. Last week I missed the Christmas Dinner which I hear went astoundingly well, with lots of fellowship and fun. I want to thank **Joan Reed** for standing in for me while Jenn and I were in NZ.
6. On the subject of being away, while in NZ Jenn and I went to two Rotary meetings for the clubs of Kerri Kerri and the Bay of Islands and it wasn't just for a cheap meal. They were good meetings and we were made very welcome to both. I would strongly advocate doing a make-up if you are away, it is a great opportunity to meet local people and get new ideas for activities and the way the run their meetings. As an instance Kerri Kerri run a Garden Safari annually in which they have a large number of local people, not just Rotarians, who have an open weekend for their gardens. The club nets in excess of \$25,000. They are also planning a cross north island event which can be seen on www.northerncrossing.co.nz this will involve a swim, cycle ride and run, while they expect it to build they anticipate its becoming a multi thousand dollar event.
7. I have received advice from the Department of Water, Land & Biodiversity Conservation that we were unsuccessful in gaining a grant towards the costs associated with the Orphanage project. There is another window of opportunity towards the end of the financial year and I will liaise with Unley Council to see if we can apply for this.
8. A reminder that on Sunday 20th December, anytime after 3pm, Jenn and I will host drinks to celebrate Christmas, this will be held at our home 20/3 Chappell Drive, Glenelg, partners welcome. No need to bring anything we will provide drinks and nibbles.

Spots

Stephen Baker: introduced Graham Jaeschke State Manager of the Smith Family foundation. Graham is the General Manager for South Australia. He joined The Smith Family in June 2008 after working in State and Federal politics for 15 years. Previously Graham was the State Director of the Liberal Party in New South Wales, South Australia and Queensland. Graham's tertiary qualifications are in politics and geography from Flinders University.

Graham's mother is a member of the Rotary club of Prospect and his father was a member of the Clare Rotary Club and was involved in the Rabbit program.

Graham Jaeschke: The Smith Family has a long and proud association with Christmas. The organization was founded in 1922 when five businessmen decided to deliver toys to orphans on Christmas Eve. When ever they were asked who they were they replied Mr. Smith, hence the name. Since then we have grown and developed and what we do has changed to meet the needs of an ever-changing society, but we still deliver toy and book gift packs and hampers to families at Christmas.

This gesture of goodwill ensures that all Australian families can come together at Christmas to share food and gifts and celebrate life. The Smith Family continues to provide opportunities for disadvantaged Australians to participate fully and society and we believe that Christmas is a time when all Australians should feel they belong.

Christmas hampers

Each year at Christmas time, tens of thousands of food hampers are distributed to needy children and families across Australia. This process is made possible by hundreds of volunteers.

The Smith Family believes that every family should be able to sit down in their own home to a traditional feast at Christmas time. Unfortunately, for families living in financial disadvantage, Christmas often adds additional strain to existing budget pressures. We try to ease the burden on these families by providing food and gifts in addition to our ongoing financial, personal and educational support.

Every Christmas an estimated 20,000 toy and book gift packs and 10,000 food hampers are distributed to needy families. Hundreds of community volunteers, corporate volunteers from our corporate partners and a few celebrity packers donate their time to ensure that everything is ready to go in time for Christmas. Each food hamper contains all the essentials for a traditional Christmas lunch and each toy and book gift pack is chosen to suit the age and gender of the children in the household.

The Smith Family believes that Christmas is a time for social cohesion and participation. Providing assistance at Christmas is also a major part of our history and traditions and we intend to continue this gesture of goodwill well into the future.

Reno Elms: Spoke on the procedures requiring assistance still for Christmas and many tasks were assigned to various members. We need all hands on deck to make this a successful event. Reno also advised the club that **John Peacham** was attending the rehearsal being held this evening

Chandra Sluggett: Polio Plus Christmas fruit cakes are for sale. \$5 of the proceeds benefit Polio Plus.



Stephen Baker with Graham Jaeschke

Sergeant's Session

David Middleton continued duly penalised any Rotarian who needed to pay penance. **Sheila Evans** won the lucky square and **Greg McLeod** won the mystery wine.

Jerry's Jottings

It was great to hear from **Leena** about her home in Finland at this week's meeting it was also interesting to see the increase in confidence over the time Leena has been with the club. Well done Leena, terrific presentation. Thanks to **Stephen Baker** and the programme committee for organising the gift giving for the Smith family. Thanks to all who contributed and to **Bob Mullins and Genese** for bearing their chest.

With the resignation of Martin Cooper we have now lost four members to Rotary this year. We do have prospective new members but we need to rebuild the strength of the club and bring in fresh blood. Please think about people you could invite along to a meeting to see what we do.

Jerry

Leena's Presentation on her home in Finland

Since I've been here for almost 5 months now, I think that it's time for all of you to get to know my country and me a little bit better

We pay a lot of taxes in Finland and the government takes good care of us, that's why we have a good healthcare system and "free" school lunches and many other benefits. Many people may think that Finland is just a dark and cold country... ok it can be dark and cold but hey it's much more than that actually...

In Finland we have almost 200 000 lakes, lots of forests (mainly conifer, pine and birch trees) and that's why the wood industry is important for us (furniture and paper factories).

We have 4 very different seasons in Finland. In spring the snow is melting and everything is wet and the whole of nature is waking up. Temperature about 10 degrees. The summer is the best time in Finland –after the winter of course. Everything is green and beautiful and people are happy. The typical summer temperature is 15 to 25 degrees. In the autumn all the leaves turn to yellow, orange and red. It's very beautiful. And the temperature it's in 10 degrees and it rains a lot so it can be quite miserable sometimes and of course we have the real winter in



President Jerry



Leena Kasurinen with Joan Reed

Finland with snow... Then the temperature is normally from -10 to -25 degrees. In Lapland the summers are very light because the sun doesn't set for two months in summertime and winters are very dark. In the winter you can see the Northern Lights in Lapland.

So now you know something about the country but what about the people?

A stereotypical Finn is shy and quiet, eats a lot of rye bread, likes ice-hockey, listens to heavy metal music and owns a summer cottage by a lake with sauna.

I have two very close friends and a boyfriend, Henri. I love all of them cos with them I can be myself and we always have a good time. I have been playing soccer, the real football, for almost 9 years in our local teams. I used to have training three times a week and games in the weekends. Apart from soccer I also like snowboarding and almost every year our family goes to Lapland for a skiing trip. I'm interested in music and I've played piano for 8 years but just as a hobby.

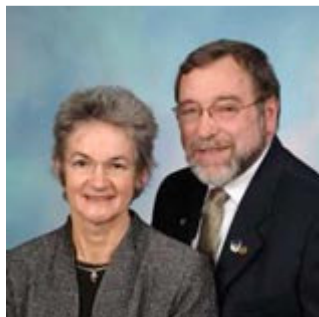
In the forests we have animals. Brown bear (national animal) whooper swan (national bird) and moose. Because Finland is very far north our climate is very different to what it is here.

Siilinjärvi is where I live. My town has 20 000 people. We have few primary schools, one school for years seven eight and nine and one high school which is the one I go to. Plus I also had morning training three times a week at school so back home soccer was a big part of my life.

We are pretty close family and we like to travel together around Finland and in Europe but the best childhood memories I have are from our home. As I said before, many Finns own a summer cottage somewhere by a lake, but our home is already by a lake so to relax you don't have to go anywhere and you can feel like you are on a summer cottage already. My parents are Janne and Marja-Leena I have a twenty-year-old big brother Kalle, a middle brother Jaakko is 13 years old and he started year 7 this year in a new school and my little brother Vaino, he is 7 years old and he has started school this year.

Rotary News

An extract from the DG's Newsletter



During the last 4 weeks or so the Prime Minister's Office and the RI Office in Parramatta have been 'talking' about Rotary implementing a policy of inviting an Indian student to dinner. This was as a result of the attacks on international students, mainly Indian, in the eastern states. I am not sure how this might work, but it clearly will not be easy.

In D9520 we are responding to Hieu Van Le's challenge to us to provide more social opportunities for international students in and around Adelaide. The first function to do this, hosted by RC Norwood was held on Sunday 29th November. It was supported and attended by a number of Rotarians from other clubs. I hope that this will be a great start to a programme that will be of benefit to the students, our clubs and our community at large. I see room for our Victorian and NSW clubs to perhaps be involved in functions like weekend home hosting. In SA alone, some 30,000 international students make this industry our 4th biggest export earner. I think there is a role for Rotary to support these students, one that we are well equipped to do.

A number of Group 8 clubs have been active in bushfire relief again. Thank you to all Rotarians and partners who supported this project. In the last couple of weeks Rotarian Kevin Roberts has been in the affected areas liaising with Rotary clubs about the next stage. More details will follow, but it is almost certain that we will be asking for Rotarians, partners and friends to join work groups towards the end of summer.

We have just completed the first payment for the new Timor Leste Water project with PLAN. This is a major project, with a total cost of over \$680,000. Our share will be \$59,000, to be paid in full by June 2010. This comes from the money donated by clubs over the last couple of years, some allocation of carryover funds from the district, and some Foundation money. If you want to know more about the project, please contact: Don Richardson (dcar.richardson@bigpond.com).

We have also joined with D9500, two districts from Victoria and a Philippine district in a major sanitation project in a village in the Philippines. This will require some financial support from clubs in addition to our Foundation contribution, plus grants from USAid etc. A separate request to clubs to support this project has been circulated.

Our suburban clubs have gained good exposure through the Messenger Newspaper group in the last few weeks. This has been achieved through Rotary support of local Salvation Army charities in the different Messenger areas. The opportunity for further support by Messenger for Rotary Club activities is now available, so please approach your local Messenger with appropriate stories and pictures. Let's make the most of this opportunity.

The latest report on PolioPlus indicates that progress has been good over the last few months. One immunisation day in Afghanistan in September reached 880,000 children in one day, in areas that have been affected by war in recent times. Please keep up your support for this important project and the Foundation generally. Now is a good time to donate.....the exchange rate is VERY good.

December is Family Month in Rotary. It is a time to perhaps step back a little from our Rotary and community work, and spend more time with family and friends. In January we move into Rotary Awareness month, ready for the second half of our year.

Karina and I wish you all the compliments of the season and hope that your time at home, at the beach or elsewhere will be restful, enjoyable and safe!

Diary Dates

Events	Date	Time	Comments
Christmas Carols	Sunday 13 th December	3.00pm Onwards	

Our Upcoming Meetings

Date	Venue	Time	Occasion	Chairman & Scribe	Venue Set-up/ Plaque Board	Sergeant	Attendance Desk
15/12/09	Tiffins on the Park	6 for 6.30pm	Ken Bailey – "Christmas Pageant"	D Payne	R Mills	D Middleton	G McLeod & R Mullins
Wednesday 23/12/09	Arkaba Hotel	7 for 7.15am	Joint Clubs Breakfast Hyde Park & Eastwood, Speaker: Tony Nancarrow	N/A	G McLeod	N/A	R Mullins & J Newall
5/01/10	Club De Petanque	7 for 7.30pm	Petanque Night at the Club De Petanque D'Adelaide (Greenhill Rd)	N/A	R Mullins	D Middleton	J Newall & P O'Neil
12/10/10	Tiffins on the Park	6 for 6.30pm	Rob Rodenberg: "Save Water Save Life"	S Westgarth	M Martin	D Middleton	P O'Neil & D Payne

Apologies To: Wendy Andrews by e-mail to unley.attendance@rotaryclub.org.au or in an emergency on (08) 8377-7830

Meeting Chair Enquiries To: Stephen Baker on 8379 7105 or email to unley.vocational@rotaryclub.org.au

Venue Set-up/Plaque Board Enquiries To: David Middleton on 8332 6253 or by e-mail to unley.sergeant@rotaryclub.org.au

Attendance Desk Enquiries To: Wendy Andrews by e-mail to unley.attendance@rotaryclub.org.au or in an emergency on (08) 8377-7830

Members rostered on Venue Set-up and Plaque Board should see Tiffins on the Park staff to gain access to the club's meeting paraphernalia. Please remember to gather up all items at the end of the meeting and return them to the storeroom.

Saturday Thrift Shop Roster: November - December 2009

Week No.	Dates	Early Shift: 9am to 11.30 am	Late Shift: 11.30am to 1.30pm
2	12/12/09	Stephen Baker & Greg McLeod	Janet Plumb & David Middleton
3	19/12/09	Glenys Ferguson & Neesha Nandasena	Joan Reed & Bob Laws
Thrift Shop Closed until January 11th 2010			
3	16/01/10	Glenys Ferguson & Neesha Nandasena	Joan Reed & Bob Laws
4	23/01/10	John Peacham, Chandra Sluggett	Bob Mullins & Sheila Evans
5	30/10/09	Reno Elms & Bob Mullins	Natalie Bowen & Joan Reed

Rotarians, who are unable to attend as rostered, please arrange a swap or contact:

Bob Laws: 8223 6403; (M) 0438 865 305; e-mail: steedman@senet.com.au

On the Back Page

Three men died on Christmas Eve and were met by Saint Peter at the pearly gates.

"In honour of this holy season" Saint Peter said, "You must each possess something that symbolises Christmas to get into heaven."

The first man fumbled through his pockets and pulled out a lighter. He flicked it on. "It represents a candle", he said.

"You may pass through the pearly gates" Saint Peter said.

The second man reached into his pocket and pulled out a set of keys. He shook them and said, "They're bells."

Saint Peter said "You may pass through the pearly gates".

The third man started searching desperately through his pockets and finally pulled out a pair of women's panties.

St. Peter looked at the man with a raised eyebrow and asked, "And just what do those symbolise?"

The man replied, "These are Carols."

And So The Christmas Season Begins . . .

Remember our Rotary theme for the year:

**THE FUTURE OF ROTARY
IS IN YOUR HANDS**